

# IN RECOGNITION OF THE MOBILE TURKISH COFFEE HOUSE PROJECT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Mobile Turkish Coffee House, currently touring the East Coast to promote friendship between Turkish and American people. Led by Gizem Salcigil White, this all-volunteer, non-profit project has decorated a food truck with images of Turkey and is travelling to Washington D.C.; Baltimore, Maryland; New York City; New Haven, Connecticut; and Boston, Massachusetts to share free Turkish coffee with Americans in order to facilitate "coffee conversations" between Turkish and American people.

The United States of America and the Republic of Turkey have close diplomatic ties and they cooperate on many issues. The Mobile Turkish Coffee House project is promoting awareness of this friendship through fun cultural events. In addition to sharing free coffee, the Mobile Turkish Coffee House is hosting educational events throughout the East Coast. The events feature expert lectures and free tastings followed by short role-plays that reflect Turkish traditions and values.

Turkish coffee is world-renowned. This unique coffee was recently submitted to UNESCO's World Heritage list by the Republic of Turkey's Ministry of Culture and Tourism as a cultural inheritance that should be protected. The Ottoman Empire brought coffee to Europe, from which it made its way to the United States. Both Americans and Turkish people enjoy coffee; through this project both peoples can learn more about our shared history.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Gizem Salcigil White and all the volunteers who have made The Mobile Turkish Coffee House a reality. As they spread their message of good will, we recognize their spirit of friendship and commend them for their efforts to promote peace and international camaraderie.

# CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU'S SECOND INAUGURATION

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Ma Ying-Jeou's second inauguration as president of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on May 20, 2012. I am honored to celebrate President Ma Ying-Jeou's second inauguration because of his diplomacy skills, work on improving the relationship between Taiwan and mainland China, and efforts to reduce crime along the Taiwan Strait.

Since President Ma Ying-Jeou took office, his pursuit of an open society is evident. Many of the world's great religions are openly and enthusiastically practiced in Taiwan. These denominations include Buddhism, Taoism, Chris-

tianity and many more. Labor unions, NGOs and various activist groups are also free to operate in Taiwan. Taiwan is, further, home to many languages, dialects and cultures from across Asia.

For Taiwan, the fifth direct presidential election on January 14, 2012, is a milestone. This election is testament to Taiwan's embrace of democracy. Under President Ma Ying-Jeou's time in office, Taiwanese citizens finally experience and exercise democracy. Taiwan is a shining example not only for Asia but for the entire world.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize President Ma Ying-Jeou's second inauguration, and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating President Ma on his second inauguration and honor him for the lasting influence he has made on Taiwan.

# IN REMEMBRANCE OF OLGA "BETTY" DOUGHERTY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Olga 'Betty' Dougherty, a dedicated civic activist in Lakewood, Ohio, and a volunteer to the Democratic Party and Democratic candidates in Northeast Ohio.

Born on October 8th, 1917, in Ashtabula, Ohio, Olga Tratnik, was known as Betty. In her early 20s, Betty worked as a housekeeper before landing a job at General Electric until she retired.

Betty was a passionate volunteer, working with many different organizations to improve the world around her. She was with the St. Clair Superior Coalition for 20 years. She was a longtime member of the Lakewood Democratic Club. Following her retirement, in the early 1990s, Betty became more politically involved and began volunteering for Democratic Cleveland City Council candidates in her ward. She eventually worked her way into larger races and was an avid volunteer for Ohio State Representative Mike Foley, Ohio State Senator Michael Skindell and myself.

In 1997, during my first term in Congress, Norfolk Southern announced its plan to triple the number of freight trains along the track through Lakewood as part of its acquisition of Conrail. Betty was then living in the Westerly apartments near my Lakewood District Office. She was active in opposing the merger because of the effect the increased freight levels would have on the safety of the people of Lakewood and surrounding communities. Betty and several other seniors who lived in the Westerly began a daily count of the number of trains, contradicting NS's contention that there were only 13 trains a day as there was in 1995. Known as the "Senior Monitors," Betty and her colleagues reported their train counts at every meeting of the people organized to oppose to the merger. Often the Senior Monitors' numbers were much higher than Norfolk Southern's, in the 20-24 range. The Senior Monitors' data was significant in helping me and the local communities negotiate the historic cap on the number of trains at the 1995

level, rather than a higher number based on 1997 numbers. Thanks to Betty's help and so many others working with her to protect safety in Lakewood, that cap of 14 trains per day on the Nickel Plate Line through Lakewood, Rocky River and Bay Village, is in effect today.

Betty was also a world traveler and joined travel groups where she would be paired up with another single lady on adventures all over the world. Throughout her travels she collected hundreds of recipes and enjoyed hosting her friends and neighbors for dinner parties.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the great life and achievements of Betty Dougherty.

# HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK MOTTA, A DEDICATED SAMARITAN AND PUBLIC SERVANT

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise today to honor the life Frank Motta, a Good Samaritan who paid the ultimate price for helping his community. Frank—known in eastern Washington as a man who would stand up for what was right no matter the cost—passed away in March after being assaulted while trying to break up an underage drinking party. His legacy of utmost care and concern for others will be remembered and sorely missed by the community.

Frank, a Vietnam veteran, served in the United States Air Force from 1964–1968, receiving an Honorable Discharge as well as 2 Presidential Unit Citations, 2 Outstanding Unit Awards, and 2 Vietnamese Crosses for Gallantry. He continued his service to the country by taking a prominent role in Central Washington youth education, working for over 30 years as an English teacher, football coach, principal, and assistant superintendent. He received degrees and certifications in education from California State University at Fullerton, Azusa Pacific University, Washington State University, and Central Washington University. One of his greatest honors was receiving the Young Educator of the Year Award from the Othello High School in 1979, which recognized his tremendous service to the youth of Central Washington.

After retiring from his education career, Frank continued his service as a volunteer in the Spokane VA. His compassion and concern ultimately earned him a full-time position. His coworkers remember him as a man with an unwavering commitment to serve those who served us, saying he's had a true impact on every employee in the hospital.

While we mourn the loss of this dedicated servant and everyday hero, it is with great joy that we remember his life of commitment to others. We are honored to have had such a tremendous man as a part of our community, and ask that his passing serve as a reminder to us all that we are meant to live for one another, and a life built around dedication to others is a life truly lived. May he live on in the heart of service everywhere.